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from Army surplus and by a tractor purchased by the Government from other private dealers and if there is no change in the rate, may I know the reason for the same? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The difference in prices of tractors purchased by the Government is not taken into account while hiring their use. They are hired under ' no profit no loss ' basis. There cannot be any discrimination between ryots who happen to use a particular tractor and those who happen to use other tractors."

SRI K. R. NALLASIVAM :—" இதுபோன்ற பெரும் ட்ராக்டர்கள் பெரும் நிலச்சுவாந்தார்களுக்குதான் பயன்படுகிறதே தவிர சிறு நிலம் படைத்தவர்களுக்கு உபயோகப்படுவது கிடையாது. அதனுல் ஜப்பானில் உபயோகப்படுத்தக்கூடிய இரண்டு குதிரை வேகமுள்ள சிறிய கலப்பைகளை வாங்கி அதை வாடகைக்கு விட சர்க்கார் யோசிக்குமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" எனக்கு இந்த விவரம் ஒன்றும் தெரியாது. அதைப்பற்றி யோசிக்கப்படும்."

' Madras Information '

* 1001 *Q*.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the publication of ' Sennai Cheidi ' was stopped;

(*b*) the reason therefor;

(*c*) the number of copies of ' Madras Information ' now printed;

(*d*) how many of them are distributed free; and

(*e*) the number of subscribers and the average amount realized by direct sale of every issue?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The publication of ' Sennai Cheidi ' Tamil edition of the Madras Information was discontinued along with its other regional language counterparts in May 1953.

" (*b*) The publication of the language editions of the Madras Information was discontinued partly as a measure of economy and partly because it was considered adequate if the English edition was published for giving minimum publicity to the policies and achievements of Government. The English edition has a wider field of publicity than the language editions since it is circulated outside the State and abroad.

" (*c*) 3,000 copies of the Madras Information are now being printed every month.

" (*d*) 800 copies of Madras Information are distributed free.

" (*e*) There are 1,400 subscribers for the journal and the sale through agents is 800 copies. The average amount realized by direct sale is Rs. 325 per month."

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Sri V. R. Nagarajan :—" May I know whether the Government will accept articles contributed by Members of the Legislature for the Madras Information, and if so, under what conditions? "

The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam :—" It depends upon the quality of the articles."

Woman Medical Officer for Government Hospital, Puttur

* 1002 *Q.*—Sri K. Venkatarama Gowda : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the Hospital Advisory Committee and the public of Puttur in South Kanara district, regarding the inconvenience caused to patients, particularly women, in not filling the vacant post of a Woman Medical Officer for a long time in the Government Hospital, Puttur; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty :—"(*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Appointment of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers

* 1003 *Q.*—Sri K. C. Gopalan Unni : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons were selected for appointment as Assistant Commercial Tax Officers in 1954; and

(*b*) how many of them possess the prescribed qualifications?

The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu :—" (*a*) 36.

" (*b*) 21."

Sri K. Aranganathan :—" How many of them were appointed on the advice of Mr. Balakrishnan? "

Hours of duty for the staff in the Transport department

* 1004 *Q.*—Sri K. P. Gopalan : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether the Government have fixed any hours of duty for the checking inspectors, time-keepers and running staff employed in the Government Transport, Madras?

The Hon. Sri B. Parameswaran :—" In accordance with section 65 of the Motor Vehicles Act read with rule 215 of the Motor Vehicles Rules, the running staff like drivers,